

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
U.S. Serial No.: 10/755,701
Page 2

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-100. (Cancelled)

101. (New) A containment system comprising:

(a) a shell, the shell comprising a cavity and an outside surface and including at least one opening on the outside surface providing access to the cavity;

(b) a liner, the liner comprising:

an outer surface;

a lip; and

an inner surface, the inner surface forming a cavity and including a web,

wherein the web extends around a portion of the lip;

(c) an implant stem head, the implant stem head comprising:

a generally spherical body having a surface configured to correspond to the web enabling the implant stem head to be inserted into the liner when the implant stem head is in a first orientation; and

a cavity; and

(d) a separate femoral stem component which may be inserted into the cavity of the implant stem head,

wherein the shell may be received by an acetabulum, and

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**U.S. Serial No.: 10/755,701****Page 3**

wherein the liner may be received in the cavity of the shell, and

wherein the web allows the implant stem head to be inserted into the cavity of the liner when the implant stem head is oriented in the first orientation and constrains the implant stem head within the cavity of the liner when the implant stem head is oriented in a second orientation such that the implant stem head may articulate within the liner but cannot be removed from the liner once it is attached to the stem.

102. (New) The system of claim 101, wherein the liner may articulate within the cavity of the shell.

103. (New) The system of claim 102, wherein the web is shaped to cooperate with the implant stem head as the implant stem head articulates relative to the liner.

104. (New) The system of claim 101, wherein the web is capable of being positioned superiorly within a patient.

105. (New) The system of claim 101, wherein a center point of the implant stem head is not in the same position as a center point of the liner when the implant stem head is positioned within the liner.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
U.S. Serial No.: 10/755,701
Page 4

106. (New) The system of claim 101, wherein the shell has a generally hemispherical shape.

107. (New) The system of claim 101, wherein the liner has a generally hemispherical shape.

108. (New) The system of claim 101, wherein the inner surface of the cavity of the liner is shaped to correspond generally to the outer surface of the implant stem head.

109. (New) The system of claim 101, wherein the web forms a D-shaped opening.

110. (New) The system of claim 101, wherein the web is formed as a continuation of the inner surface of the liner.

111. (New) The system of claim 101, wherein the implant stem head is comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of ceramic and metal.

112. (New) The system of claim 101, wherein the liner is comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of ceramic, metal and plastic.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**U.S. Serial No.: 10/755,701****Page 5**

113. (New) The system of claim 101, wherein the shell is comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of ceramic, metal and plastic.

114. (New) The system of claim 101, wherein positive eccentricity is demonstrated.

115. (New) The system of claim 101, wherein negative eccentricity is demonstrated.

116. (New) The system of claim 101, wherein off-axis eccentricity is demonstrated.

117. (New) A containment system comprising:

(a) an implant structural member, the implant structural member comprising:

an outer surface;

a lip; and

an inner surface, the inner surface forming a cavity and including a web,

wherein the web extends around a portion of the lip;

(b) an implant stem head, the implant stem head comprising:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**U.S. Serial No.: 10/755,701****Page 6**

a generally spherical body having a surface configured to correspond to the web enabling the implant stem head to be inserted into the implant structural member when the implant stem head is in the first orientation; and

a cavity; and

(c) a separate femoral stem component which may be inserted into the cavity of the implant stem head,

wherein the outer surface of the implant structural member may be received by a shell, and

wherein the implant stem head may be received by the implant structural member, and

wherein the web allows the implant stem head to be inserted into the cavity of the implant structural member when the implant stem head is oriented in a first orientation and constrains the implant stem head within the cavity when the implant stem head is oriented in a second orientation such that the implant stem head may articulate within the implant structural member but cannot be removed from the implant structural member once it is attached to the stem.

118. (New) The system of claim 117, wherein the web is shaped to cooperate with the implant stem head as the implant stem head articulates relative to the implant structural member.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**U.S. Serial No.: 10/755,701****Page 7**

119. (New) The system of claim 117, where the web is capable of being positioned superiorly within a patient.

120. (New) The system of claim 117, wherein a center point of the implant stem head is not in the same position as the center point of the implant structural member when the implant stem head is positioned within the implant structural member.

121. (New) The system of claim 117, wherein the implant structural member has a generally hemispherical shape.

122. (New) The system of claim 117, wherein the inner surface of the implant structural member is shaped to correspond generally to the outer surface of the implant stem head.

123. (New) The system of claim 117, wherein the web forms a generally D-shaped opening.

124. (New) The system of claim 117, wherein the web is formed as a continuation of the inner surface of the implant structural member.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**U.S. Serial No.: 10/755,701****Page 8**

125. (New) The system of claim 117, wherein the implant stem head is comprised of material selected from the group consisting of ceramic and metal.

126. (New) The system of claim 117, wherein the implant structural member is comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of ceramic, metal and plastic.

127. (New) The system of claim 117, wherein positive eccentricity is demonstrated.

128. (New) The system of claim 117, wherein negative eccentricity is demonstrated.

129. (New) The system of claim 117, wherein off-axis eccentricity is demonstrated.

130. (New) A containment system comprising:

(a) a shell, the shell having a generally hemispherical shape and comprising a cavity and an outside surface and including at least one opening on the outside surface providing access to the cavity, wherein the shell is received by an acetabulum;

(b) a liner, the liner having a generally hemispherical shape and comprising:
an outer surface;

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**U.S. Serial No.: 10/755,701****Page 9**

a lip; and

an inner surface, the inner surface forming a cavity and including a web, wherein the web extends around a portion of the lip to form a substantially D-shaped opening, and wherein the liner is received in the cavity of the shell and may articulate within the cavity of the shell;

(c) an implant stem head, the implant stem head comprising:

a generally spherical body having a substantially planar surface configured to correspond to the web enabling the implant stem head to be inserted into the liner when the implant stem head is in a first orientation; and

a cavity; and

(d) a separate femoral stem component which may be inserted into the cavity of the implant stem head,

wherein the inner surface of the liner is shaped to correspond generally to the outer surface of the implant stem head, and

wherein the web is shaped to cooperate with the implant stem head as the implant stem head articulates relative to the liner, and

wherein the web allows the implant stem head to be inserted into the cavity of the liner when the implant stem head is oriented in the first orientation and constrains the implant stem head within the cavity of the liner when the implant stem head is oriented in a second orientation such that the implant stem head may articulate within the liner but cannot be removed from the liner.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**U.S. Serial No.: 10/755,701****Page 10**

131. (New) A containment system comprising:

- (a) an implant structural member, the implant structural member comprising:
 - an outer surface;
 - a lip; and
 - an inner surface, the inner surface forming a cavity and including a web,

wherein the web extends around a portion of the lip to form a substantially D-shaped opening;

- (b) an implant stem head, the implant stem head comprising:

a generally spherical body having a substantially planar surface configured to correspond to the web enabling the implant stem head to be inserted into the implant structural member when the implant stem head is in the first orientation; and

a cavity; and

- (c) a separate femoral stem component which may be inserted into the cavity of the implant stem head,

wherein the outer surface of the implant structural member may be received by a shell, and

wherein the implant stem head may be received by the implant structural member, and

wherein the web allows the implant stem head to be inserted into the cavity of the implant structural member when the implant stem head is oriented in a first orientation and

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**U.S. Serial No.: 10/755,701****Page 11**

constrains the implant stem head within the cavity when the implant stem head is oriented in a second orientation.